localities. If an enquiry is made the department will be convinced of the importance. There are so many petitions pending before the Government on this question. Then, this is a bridge which will give help to so many school-going children. Now, they find it quite impossible to go to the school. I therefore humbly submit that the Government should earnestly conduct some enquiry into the matter and should take steps at least to provide a foot bridge there.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* It is far from my intention to do any disservice to the people. I shall look into this question once again and if it is found necessary, I shall recommend it to the Government.

**Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon** *(Kattur):* Thinking that the Hon'ble Member for Public Works will make an earnest attempt in the matter, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

*Motion by leave withdrawn.*

## Cut Motion No. 20.

## Improvements to the Hill Palace Road.

**Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambair** *(Trippunittura):* Sir, I rise to move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,16,872 for Communications by Re. 1. This is to impress upon the Government the desirability of improving the condition of the Hill Palace Road.* I am very sorry to bring to the notice of this House that in spite of the fact that this road is one of the most important roads in the State, the condition of the road at the end of every year is usually so miserable that even persons who walk along the road find it difficult to do so. I do not know whether the members sitting on the other side have experienced it, because most of them are used to travel only in cars. Even in that case I am sure they will have felt it, because a tyre which lasts ordinarily for one year can only last for 3—4 months when it is driven along this road, especially during the closing months in every year. Somehow the amount allotted for annual maintenance is so used that the road is not maintained properly at all. Anyone, who happens to go by this road during the closing months of the year, will be convinced of this fact. The importance of this road need not, I believe, be brought to the notice of this House by me, as it is the road which connects Ernakulam with the residence of His Highness the Maharaja. I think that in view of the importance of this road it is up to the Government to permanently improve its condition. I remember to have read an article in the "Modern Review" recently, wherein it is stated that at a cost of 75 thousand

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rupees or so, a mile of road can be constructed of cement concrete and in that case the annual cost of maintenance will come to practically nothing at all. I think it is an experiment worth trying in this road, because the amount of traffic here is really large. There are ever-so-many cars and ever-so-many buses going along this road every day. In this particular case, even if some expenditure is incurred for the purpose of paving the road with cement concrete, I think, the gain that we get on account of the reduction in the annual maintenance charges will be sufficient to make up for the amount that we may have to spend on it.

I am very glad to find that Government have taken steps to widen this road early this year and that land acquisitions have been completed in order to widen it for a distance of about one or two miles. I wish that along with that question the Government will seriously consider this aspect of the matter also and find out some method by which this road can be permanently improved, so that traffic can be carried on at least without much discomfort.

**Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon** *(Cranganur):* On a point of information, may I know from the hon'ble member which exactly is the road, the hon'ble member means by the Hill Palace Road?

**Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar** *(Trippunittura):* The road from Ernakulam to Hill Palace. That is what is called the Hill Palace Road now.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* Sir, I am very thankful to the member for suggesting the concreting of roads in the State, especially the Hill Palace Road and if more members will come in and help me in this proposal, I would very much welcome. Cement concreting of the roads is one of the best and most up-to-date methods of making roads. The cost of cement concreting for a mile will not be so high as 75,000 rupees in our State where most of our roads are only 15 ft wide. It won't be more than Rs. 35,000 or 40,000 for the Hill Palace Road, per mile. The Hill Palace Road is about 6 miles and that would mean an expenditure of 2,40,000 rupees. We are now spending on the Hill Palace Road every year about Rs. 6,000.

**Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon** *(Cranganur):* It is Rs. 4,700.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* I thought the expenditure was about Rs. 1,000 a mile including special renewals, etc.

**Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon** *(Cranganur):* No, it is only Rs. 600 a mile.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* Of course, the expenditure that we incur on that road is not sufficient to justify

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an investment of Rs, 2,40,000. The Hill Palace Road, first of all, requires more widening. It is narrow in many places, and we have started that work. We will have to continue this work for one or two more years. After widening is completed, I think Government will be agreeable to give the road some more permanent method of service.

**Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar** *(Trippunittura):* I don't press the motion.

*Motion by leave withdrawn.*

## Cut Motion No. 21

### Bridge connecting Anjur and Kattakampal

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* Sir, I move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,16,872 for Communications by Rs. 2. This is to impress upon the Government the necessity to bridge Cheruvallikadavu connecting Anjur and Kattakampal villages along with the completion of Cheruvallikadavu road.*

This is an identical motion with the one I moved a few minutes before.

**Panel Chairman:** Is it an identical motion?

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* No, but almost of the same nature (*laughter*). Cheruvallikkadavu road is expecting completion by the end of 1116. On the opposite shore, in Kattakampal Village, there is a very good road connecting Pyngamukku desam with Chowwannur, Porkolam, Kadavallur and Pazhanji. The construction of this bridge will be extremely useful from a commercial point of view to the arecanut growers of Anjur Village and the neighbouring places in the British territory. It will also fetch to the Government a good amount by way of tolls. I request that the matter may receive the earliest consideration of the House and the Government.

**Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon** *(Chief Engineer):* I understand from the hon'ble member that this embankment and bridge should be constructed on a capital basis. In that case, Sir, I shall take up the question in a traffic sense and see what is possible.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* Yes. In view of the assurance of the Chief Engineer, I do not press my motion.

*Motion by leave withdrawn*

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